

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 MC-02

AID-20 EB-11 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /132 W

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P R 131731Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1739

INFO USCINCSO

JCS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 4637

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MASS, EC, US

SUBJ: SALE OF TOW ANTI-TANK WEAPON TO ECUADOR

REF: STATE 062183

1. DURING COURSE OF TOUR D'HORIZON JULY 12 WITH ECUADOREAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON ALBERTO QUEVEDO WHO IS HERE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, QUEVEDO BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF THE SALE OF THE TOW MISSILE TO ECUADOR. HE TOLD ME THAT BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND A HIGH GOE ARMY OFFICIAL HAD SPOKEN TO HIM THAT DAY ABOUT THEIR CONCERN THAT THE U.S. WOULD NOT MAKE THE TOW MISSILE AVAILABLE TO ECUADOR. THE ARMY OFFICIAL WITH WHOM QUEVEDO SPOKE HAD GONE SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT THIS REPRESENTED A DELIBERATE POLICY ON THE PART OF THE USG, WHICH DID NOT UNDERSTAND ECUADOR'S DEFENSE NEEDS AND APPEARED TO BE DEALING WITH ECUADOR AS IT MIGHT HAVE "THIRY YEARS AGO".

2. I TOLD AMBASSADOR QUEVEDO THAT I WAS AWARE OF THE GOE'S REQUEST FOR THE TOW MISSILE, BUT THAT I DID NOT SPECIFICALLY RECALL WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED. IN GENERAL, I SAID, MY IMPRESSION WAS THAT IN RESPONSE TO THE LIST OF EQUIPMENT NEEDS OF THE ECUADOREAN ARMY GIVEN US WE HAD

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INDICATED OUR ABILITY TO SUPPLY ALL BUT A VERY VERY FEW

ITEMS. I TOLD QUEVEDO, HOWEVER, THAT I WOULD REVIEW THE MATTER.

3. THIS SUBJECT WILL SURELY BE RAISED DURING THE COURSE OF THE VISIT OF SECRETARY OF THE ARMY CALLAWAY, JULY 15-17. DEFATT HAS PREVIOUSLY INDICATED TO ECUADOREAN ARMY OFFICIALS THAT THE LIGHT ANTI-TANK WEAPON WOULD BE A USEFUL SUBSTITUTE FOR THE TOW, BUT WITHOUT ELICITING MUCH INTEREST.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER THE REVIEW OF TOW AVAILABILITY MENTIONED IN REFTTEL HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND, IF SO, WITH WHAT RESULT.
BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PROCUREMENT, ANTITANK WEAPONS, MILITARY SALES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MISSILES
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Draft Date: 13 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
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